AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising: ~~a safe and effective amount of~~ (a) at least one selected from the group consisting of the human liver regeneration associated protein hLRTM4, a polynucleotide comprising the hLRTM4 gene, and a polynucleotide comprising a degenerate sequence of the hLRTM4 gene; and
(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier.

2. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 1, wherein the hLRTM4 protein has the amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:2, and the hLRTM4 gene has a sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.

3. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ method of claim 4 [[1]], wherein the ~~safe and~~ effective amount ~~of hLRTM4~~ is 1 μg-5 mg/kg body weight per day.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A use of liver regeneration associated protein hLRTM4 in the preparation of a drug used~~ A method for treating liver injury, comprising administering an effective amount of the pharmaceutical composition of claim 1 to a subject in need thereof.

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ method of claim 4, wherein the ~~drug is used to treat~~ liver injury is acute or chronic hepatitis, liver cirrhosis, or liver pathological changes caused by liver cancer.

6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising: ~~a safe and effective amount of~~ (a) an antagonist[[s]] of hLRTM4 protein, hLRTM4 gene, or hLRTM4 gene transcript, wherein the hLRTM4 protein has a sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 and the hLRTM4 gene has a sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1; and
(b) a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier.

~~wherein the antagonists are selected from the group consisting of: (i) an antisense polynucleotide to hLRTM4, wherein the polynucleotide has the antisense nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 and has a length of 15-625 bp, (ii) small interfering double-strand RNAs of hLRTM4, wherein the RNAs have the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:1 and have a length of 17-23 bp and a 3'-terminal dtdt sequence; and/or (iii) a specific antibody against hLRTM4, as well as a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, diluent or carrier.~~

7. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 6, wherein ~~the polynucleotides has the full-length antisense sequence to SEQ ID NO:1~~ the antagonist is at least one selected from the group consisting of: (i) an antisense polynucleotide for the hLRTM4 gene transcript, (ii) a small interfering RNA for the hLRTM4 gene transcript; and (iii) an antibody against the hLRTM4 protein.

8. (Currently Amended) The ~~composition~~ method of claim [[6]] 9, wherein the ~~safe and~~ effective amount ~~of antagonist to hLRTM4~~ is 1 ug-5 mg/kg body weight per day.

9. (Currently Amended) A ~~use~~ method for treating hepatocellular carcinoma or gastric adenocarcinoma, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of the composition of claim 6. ~~of hLRTM4 protein antagonist for the preparation of a drug for treating hepatocellular carcinoma, wherein the antagonist is selected from: (i) an antisense polynucleotide to hLRTM4, wherein the polynucleotide has the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 and has a length of 15-625 bp; (ii) a small interfering double-strand RNA of hLRTM4, wherein the RNA has the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:1 and has a length of 17-23 bp and a 3'-terminal dtdt sequence; and/or (iii) a specific antibody against hLRTM4.~~

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~use~~ composition of claim 7 [[9]], wherein the antagonist is [[an]] the antisense polynucleotide having a length of 15 – 625 nucleotides. ~~to hLRTM4, wherein~~

~~the polynucleotide has the nucleotide sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO: 1 and has a length of 15-625 bp.~~

11. (New) The composition of claim 7, wherein the antagonist is the small interfering RNA having a length of 16-23 bp and a 3' terminal dTdT sequence.

12. (New) An isolated hLRTM4 protein or a fragment thereof, wherein the hLRTM4 protein has a sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2.

13. (New) An isolated polynucleotide encoding the protein or the fragment of claim 12.

14. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 13, wherein the isolated polynucleotide has a sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1.

15. (New) The isolated polynucleotide of claim 13, wherein the isolated polynucleotide is incorporated in an expression vector.